



**STATE OF DELAWARE**  
**Child Death, Near Death and Stillbirth Commission**

**FINAL MINUTES**

**Meeting Date and Time:** May 17, 2013 at 1:00PM

**Meeting Location:** Appoquinimink State Service Center in Middletown, DE

**In Attendance:**

**Commissioners:**

Mr. Rodney Brittingham  
Ms. Aleks Casper  
Ms. Patricia Ciranni  
Mr. C. Malcolm Cochran, Esquire  
Dr. Garrett H. C. Colmorgen, Chair  
Ms. Mary Ann Crossley  
Ms. Tania M. Culley, Esquire  
Ms. Patricia Dailey Lewis, Esquire  
Dr. Gerard Gallucci  
Mr. Mawuna Gardesey  
Ms. Marjorie Lynn Hershberger  
Judge Joelle Hitch  
Dr. Kathy Janvier  
Dr. Amanda Kay  
Ms. MaryAnn Mieczkowski  
Ms. Debra Alioto Miller, LCSW  
Cpl. Adrienne Owen  
Dr. David Paul

**Staff:**

Ms. Anne Pedrick  
Ms. Ashlee Starratt  
Ms. Angela Birney  
Ms. Elaine O'Neill

**I. Call to Order**

Dr. Garrett H. C. Colmorgen called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM.

**II. Old Business**

a. **Minutes.** The meeting minutes from April 18, 2013, were accepted as written.

b. **Vacancies.** Ms. Pedrick is working with the Governor's Office in regards to vacancies within the Commission. One representative from the Chief Medical Examiner's Office resides in the state of New Jersey; therefore, not qualifying for a position; however, the Governor's Office is looking into having that restriction waived for this position. The New Castle County Police Department's representative has not been in attendance; therefore, the Governor's Office has been in contact with the Acting Chief to appoint another member. The Police Chief's Counsel position is open as Chief Kevin McDerby is retiring; he has requested the Governor's Office appoint the Middletown Police Chief into that position. All of these positions should be assigned and filled by the next Commission meeting, schedule for September 13<sup>th</sup>.

**III. New Business**

a. **National Child Death Review Update**

Ms. Pedrick gave a slideshow presentation on the Status of Child Death Review in the United States and the Role of the National Center. Ms. Pedrick attended the National Child Death Review Advisory Board Meeting in Washington, DC, and helped to create this presentation with the assistance of Terri Covington (Director, National Child Death Review), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Children's Bureau. The presentation gives an overview of what each state is doing, what is being reviewed within the states, what is being done with this information and how it is disseminated, and how the National Center assists states in completing these tasks.

b. **Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)**

Dr. Paul brought up the topic of NAS babies for discussion. There seems to be a rise in these cases at the state and national level. Insurance companies are refusing coverage for longer hospital stays, forcing the doctors to discharge the babies to unstable home environments with a myriad of complex social issues. Dr. Paul suggests there should be some kind of recommendation for legislation in regards to this issue. Mr. Cochran informed that this is also an issue that is being brought up at the CPAC level.

Ms. Pedrick informs the Commission that this is one of the topics for discussion at the next Joint Commission meeting.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously decided to exit Executive Session.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously decided to adjourn the meeting at 2:18PM.

